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Indianapolis doctor sentenced to 10 years for illegal painkiller distribution

Dr. Segun Rasaki pleaded guilty to writing painkiller prescriptions without authority

(Indianapolis, Ind.) -- Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry announced today that Indianapolis physician Dr. Segun Rasaki was sentenced to 10 years, 2 years executed in the Department of Corrections for the distribution of prescriptions for painkiller medications after the Drug Enforcement Administration had suspended his authority to dispense controlled substances. Rasaki pleaded guilty in April to Dealing in a Schedule IV Controlled Substance (C Felony) and Dealing in a Controlled Substance (B Felony).

Rasaki was charged in August 2013 following an investigation that began in 2009 by the Medicaid Fraud Unit of the Office of the Attorney General and the DEA. The investigation was prompted by calls from pharmacists to the DEA about concerns of Dr. Rasaki's prescribing practices. The investigation revealed that Rasaki had prescribed controlled substances, including Phenobarbital, Zutripro, and Dronabinol to multiple patients after his authority to do so had been suspended.

"Addiction to prescription painkillers continues to be a serious problem in our county and nationwide. Let there be no mistake that we will hold accountable any unscrupulous professional who thinks they can profit by facilitating the distribution of such drugs," Prosecutor Curry stated at the time of the conviction. "We sincerely appreciate the partnership of Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller and the DEA in bringing this case to a successful conviction."

"Overprescribing addictive painkillers at these levels is really a violation of the trust that patients place in their doctor, and this defendant's actions are symptomatic of the prescription drug abuse epidemic in Indiana that has inflicted medical, financial and legal consequences on many people. Having taken action to revoke Dr. Rasaki's state medical license, my office is grateful to Prosecutor Terry Curry's office and the DEA for investigating and prioritizing this serious overprescribing case and holding this defendant accountable," said Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller, whose office launched www.BitterPill.IN.gov, a multiagency effort to curb prescription drug addiction.

Rasaki's federal and state licenses were suspended in 2011 following an undercover investigation by the DEA. In December 2011 the DEA presented Dr. Rasaki with an Order to Show Cause and Immediate Suspension of Registration which stated he issued prescriptions to undercover DEA agents based on inadequate physical examination and despite indications of diversion. His Indiana Controlled Substance Registration was revoked automatically at that time.

In 2012, Dr. Segun Rasaki was prosecuted by the Marion County Prosecutor's Office and convicted on charges of Sexual Battery (D Felony) and Battery (B Misdemeanor) against two patients, for

which he received a one-year executed sentence. Today's sentence will run consecutive to the 2012 conviction.

A charge of a crime is merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.